3/2/70

Dear Howard,

Your mailing of yesterday, incredibly, arrived today. There are a number of letters in it, the pictures I'll be returning herewith, your Filinger interview (the only thing I didn't read when mail came). I've been on the go all day preparing for something I have to do this week, so I've little time. Before going to bed, from recollection, let me tell you about the location of the back wound and who did what.

To take the last first, you are aware of the recent evidence I forced out on that. At the first, it was obvious there was a major discrepancy between what Specter comtrived and all the rest of the evidence. I go into this in WW, which was completed 2/15/65. At that time I measured on myself, as I suppose just about all of us did. When the Scavengers came out, more of the same. We all did or should have had the deepest misgivings about this. You also know how I primed Levine for the Boswell interview (always beginning about 2 a.m., when his work on the morning paper was over. That wasn't much fun!). I'll skip much and come up to my Perry interview, of which I sent you a copy. Even he told me this had to be two inches down on the back, as he measured it on himself.

In the light of what I had developed, pictures are lily-gilding. They are not new, not essential, not immune to criticism without knowing the anatomical variations. And they were also done long ago, by Forman, although I didn't see his work until after I had done mine (HMIII). You can see his pictures when you are here again. I have all of them. He learned about the characteristics of the scapula, etc, from a local radiologist. I think he is also the source of this information, but he may not be, and without checking I cannot be sure of the source if he isn't: there can be considerable variations, in percentages, between different people in the amount of movement between the two positions.

My point was not only that I didn't want you to use this, I do not want you even to mention it, except when necessary in carrying it further, with Dick or me only. I am not yet finished with this, as I cannot now explain but will when I see you again. I may have more to report by then. I really do believe we should exercise the greatest caution in this area and there is more I am looking for and hope to get. There is, at least, a chance, and I want nothing to jeopardize this possibility. Further, as you know, plan a suit, and I want no telegraphing of what I've learned in advance. If you want more, or if when I rer ad your letters and answer them I think of more, you ask or I'll tell you.

Now, on the neck: a caution. I also have lower-back trouble. It materially alters my posture when I am having trouble. One of the characteristic things is the raising of the shoulders, either or both. It is a necessary adjustment to ease pain and discomfort. JFK was having much trouble 11/22, for he was wearing both the Ave bandage (which I never did) and the brace. Also characteristic is resting the arm. This also threw the shoulders high and seemed to shorten the neck in any pictures. Before you make any decision about how long his neck is, find some pictures not of the day of the assassination. I suggest as of before the Canadian tree planting, when he hurt himself again...I also have the Forman paper, which is pretty crappy in most ways...Do we know the position of the arms on the autopsy table? This also could influences measurements, I imagine significantly. What does it do to pictures if the exact position isn't duplicated?

Sincerely,